

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, California 96002

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED ADOPTION
Concerning

*Notice of Intent to Adopt a General Order for Discharges of Waste
Associated with Medicinal Cannabis Cultivation Activities (Order)*

Cannabis cultivation in the Central Valley Region has increased exponentially in recent years, both in the number and the size of operations. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has serious concerns about the water quality impacts from this dramatic increase in cannabis cultivation activity on both public and private land. The Central Valley Water Board is not interested in entering the debate over the legality of cannabis cultivation in California, other than to note that any such operation on public land is illegal regardless of the crop. The Central Valley Water Board has jurisdiction over discharges of waste that could affect waters of the state, regardless of what activity is generating the waste. The Central Valley Water Board does not in any way authorize, endorse, sanction, permit or approve the cultivation, use, or sale of cannabis/marijuana.

Central Valley Water Board staff propose for adoption a General Order for Discharges of Waste Associated with Medicinal Cannabis Cultivation Activities to mitigate water quality impacts from cannabis cultivation activities on private lands while the Board either develops a more comprehensive regulatory program specific to cannabis cultivation, or fully integrates cannabis cultivators into an existing regulatory program or programs. The General Order will regulate discharges from medicinal cannabis cultivation operations to waters of the state, which includes both surface and ground waters.

The Central Valley Water Board is seeking public, industry, and agency input on the proposed General Order. Specifically, the Central Valley Water Board is seeking input on the following:

- Whether the General Order should be adopted in its current form or modified.
- If modified, what modifications should be considered.
- Any other information or policy comments related to the General Order and the Central Valley Water Board's process for regulating cannabis cultivation activities.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting which is scheduled for:

DATE: 1-2 October 2015

PLACE: Redding City Hall – 777 Cypress Avenue, Redding, California 96001

Persons wishing to submit written comments or other written materials for this item must submit them to the Central Valley Water Board so they are received no later than **5:00 p.m. on September 7, 2015**; however, interested persons are encouraged to submit comments as soon as possible. E-mailed comments are preferred, but comments may be submitted via postal mail, e-mail, fax, or delivered to the following:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
364 Knollcrest Drive Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002
Phone #: 530-224-4845
Fax #: 530-224-4857
E-mail: roy.sherrell@waterboards.ca.gov

Written materials submitted after **5:00 p.m. on September 7, 2015** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record absent a decision by staff or the Board Chair to accept them. A party requesting to submit late materials must demonstrate good cause for the late submission, and staff or the Board Chair must find that the late submission would not prejudice the Central Valley Water Board or any party.

All interested persons may speak at the Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

Anyone having questions on the notice of *Public Hearing concerning Intent to Adopt a General Order for Discharges of Waste Associated with Medicinal Cannabis Cultivation Activities* (General Order), or regarding the General Order itself, should contact Roy "Trey" Sherrell, 530-224-4847. For language assistance needs, please contact Mandy Roman at (916) 341-5265 or at mandy.roman@waterboards.ca.gov. Interested parties may download the proposed General Order and related documents from the Central Valley Water Board's Internet website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders. Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The procedures governing Central Valley Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Central Valley Water Board's website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml or by contacting any one of the Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

original signed by

Clint E. Snyder, P.G.
Assistant Executive Officer